CLAIMS

1-5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Previously Presented) A method of communicating video frames over a communications link comprising shortening a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data, without dropping any of the video frames.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, comprising modifying at least one HSYNC signal in the data to accommodate said auxiliary data.

8.   (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said auxiliary data is audio data.

9.   (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said communications link is a digital communications link.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, comprising modifying a VSYNC signal in all frames in which the auxiliary data is to be transmitted.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, further comprising inserting a notch in all said VSYNC signals.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein inserting said notch includes inserting an 8 clock cycle pulse into said VSYNC signals.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, further wherein said notch is inserted into said VSYNC signals 8 clock pulses after a first edge of said VSYNC signals.

14.   (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising adapting at least one control signal to be compliant with a content protection standard.

15.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said at least one control signal is adapted to be compliant with said content protection standard while transmitting said auxiliary data.

16.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said control signal is ctl3.

17.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said content protection standard comprises a High-bandwidth Digital Content Protection standard.

18.   (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein adapting said control signal comprises generating a ctl3 input using at least one VSYNC signal.

19.   (Original) The method of Claim 18, further comprising ensuring that the ctl3 input is a positive going pulse.

20-22. (Cancelled).

23.   (Currently Amended) A method for communicating video frames over a communications link comprising shortening a vertical blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data without dropping any of the video frames, wherein the communication link comprises a single link.